Senate Bill No. 166

CHAPTER 461

An act to add Section 71095 to the Education Code, relating to emergency planning.

[Approved by Governor October 11, 2007. Filed with Secretary of State October 11, 2007.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 166, Negrete McLeod. Emergency preparedness: community college districts.

Existing law makes each school district and county office of education responsible for the overall development of all comprehensive school safety plans for its schools operating kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive. Existing law requires the Office of Emergency Services, in coordination with all interested state agencies with designated response roles in the state emergency plan and interested local emergency management agencies, to jointly establish by regulation a standardized emergency management system for use by all emergency response agencies, to include specified components.

Existing law establishes the California Community Colleges, under the administration of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, as one of the segments of public postsecondary education in this state. Under existing law, the board of governors appoints a chief executive officer, known as the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges.

This bill would make various legislative findings and declarations regarding emergency preparedness plans. The bill would require by January 1, 2009, the Office of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, in consultation with the Governor's Office of Emergency Services and the Office of Homeland Security, to develop emergency preparedness standards and guidelines to assist community college districts and campuses in the event of a natural disaster, hazardous condition, or terrorist activity on or around a community college campus as specified.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

- (a) Community college employees have the right to work in a safe and secure environment.
- (b) Community college employees are the first to respond to any emergency on a community college campus.

Ch. 461 — 2 —

- (c) Community college districts are not included in any provisions in the Education Code covering emergency preparedness.
- (d) The failure to prepare for an emergency event may result in injury or death that could financially burden the district due to wrongful injury and death claims.
- (e) The Standardized Emergency Management System and emergency preparedness plans may be in place, but are not being effectively implemented by community colleges.
- (f) Each school district and county office of education is required by law to have a school safety plan and follow emergency procedures for its schools operating kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive.
 - SEC. 2. Section 71095 is added to the Education Code, to read:
- 71095. (a) The chancellor's office, in consultation with the Governor's Office of Emergency Services and the Office of Homeland Security, shall, by January 1, 2009, develop emergency preparedness standards and guidelines to assist community college districts and campuses in the event of a natural disaster, hazardous condition, or terrorist activity on or around a community college campus.
- (b) The standards and guidelines shall be developed in accordance with the Standardized Emergency Management System and the National Incident Management System, and shall be reviewed by the Governor's Office of Emergency Services in a manner that is consistent with existing policy. In developing the standards and guidelines, the chancellor's office shall consider, but is not limited to, all of the following components:
 - (1) Information on establishing a campus emergency management team.
- (2) Provisions regarding overview training for every employee within one year of commencement of employment.
- (3) Information on specialized training for employees who may be designated as part of an emergency management team.
- (4) Information on preparedness, prevention, response, recovery, and mitigation policies and procedures.
- (5) Information on coordinating with the appropriate local, state, federal government authorities, and nongovernmental entities on comprehensive emergency management and preparedness activities.